

IN THE CLAIMS

~~Please cancel claims 1-31 without prejudice or disclaimer and add the following claims:~~

32. A method for (a) stimulating the phosphorylation of a tyrosine kinase domain of a Flt4 receptor in vivo or (b) treating trauma affecting the vascular endothelium of a mammal suffering from said trauma or (c) treating a dysfunctional state in a mammal characterized by lack of activation of a receptor for VEGF-related protein (VRP),
- comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof, an effective amount of a biologically active human VRP containing at least 265 amino acids, wherein the VRP contacts an extracellular domain of a Flt4 receptor.
33. The method of claim 32, wherein
- the VRP contains 265 to about 450 amino acids;
- the VRP contains about 300-450 amino acids;
- the VRP contains about 350-450 amino acids;
- the VRP contains about 399-419 amino acids;
- the VRP comprises an amino acid sequence having at least residues +1 through 29, inclusive, of Figure 1;
- the VRP comprises an amino acid sequence having at least residues +1 through 137, inclusive, of Figure 1;
- the VRP comprises an amino acid sequence having at least residues -20 through 29, inclusive, of Figure 1;

[illegible] a^2

A

the VRP comprises a sequence shown as 1 through 399, inclusive, of Figure 1.

- A